ENSURING CITY BRIDGES ARE SAFE: The city of Columbus performs routine rehabilitation to existing, city-owned bridges to ensure safety, minimize maintenance costs and prolong the life of the bridges. Public Service Committee Chair Eileen Y. Paley is sponsoring ordinance 0681-2011, which authorizes the expenditure of $1,437,500 from the Streets and Highways G.O. Bond Fund for the Bridge Rehabilitation – Annual Citywide Contract Project. Rehabilitation will consist of crack sealing, concrete patching on all elements of a bridge, railing rehabilitation, epoxy injection, maintenance of traffic, concrete removal, asphalt overlays, sealing cracks in bridge decks and the replacement of expansion joint seals.

FINANCE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING: Councilmember Priscilla R. Tyson, chair of the Finance Committee, will host a public hearing on Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers to review the city's first quarter finances. Finance Director Paul Rakosky will present a report on the First Quarter Financial Review. Those who wish to address City Council are welcome to submit a speaker slip at City Hall on the day of the meeting.

PROMOTING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK: Public Safety Committee Chair Michelle M. Mills is sponsoring resolution 0041X-2011 to recognize Emergency Medical Services Week in Columbus. This year's theme The EMS Week theme for 2011 is “Everyday Heroes.” This theme celebrates the exceptional service being provided to countless patients every day, often under incredibly challenging circumstances and illustrates the fact that EMS providers are dedicated to saving lives and limiting suffering on a daily basis. The Columbus Division of Fire has over 800 certified paramedics and last year responded to over 115,000 emergency runs which resulted in the transportation of 56,000 patients to area hospitals.

ZOO DAYS AT CITY COUNCIL: Some furry friends from the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium will visit Council Chambers to help promote the 2011 Melvin B. Dodge Summer Zoo Days. The program between the City and the Zoo is named in honor of the former director of the Recreation and Parks Department. Ordinance 0747-2011, sponsored by Recreation and Parks Committee Chair Zachary M. Klein, will help approximately 2,000 area children involved in programs at Columbus Recreation Centers enjoy Zoo Days this summer. The Columbus Zoological Park Association will provide in-kind services in the amount of $17,500 to be used toward transportation, backpacks, novelties and admission for children in 2011.

CRAIG HOLDS PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS POVERTY: Councilmember Hearcel F. Craig, chair of the Health, Housing & Human Services Committee, will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, May 17, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers to discuss and raise awareness of the issue of poverty and its impact on Columbus residents. Representatives from the Community Research Partners will also be in attendance. The organization was formed to comprehensively address community data and information needs in central Ohio and is a partnership of the City of Columbus, United Way of Central Ohio, The Ohio State University, and the Franklin County Commissioners.